

Attorney Docket No. CA919990041US1

REMARKS

The present application was filed on October 17, 2000 with claims 1-29. Claims 9-11, 20-22, 25, 26, 28, 29 and 31 have been canceled and claims 1-8, 12-19, 23, 24, 27 and 30 remain pending. Claims 1, 12 and 30 are the pending independent claims.

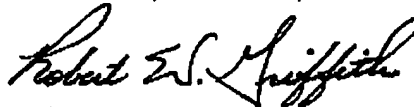
In the outstanding final Office Action dated June 10, 2005, the Examiner: (i) rejected claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, 29 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,825,877 to Dan et al. (hereinafter "Dan"); and (ii) rejected claims 11 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dan in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,272,593 to Dujari.

Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-8, 12-19, 23, 24, 27 and 30.

In response to the final Office Action, claims 9-11, 20-22, 25, 26, 28, 29 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice in an effort to expedite the application through to issuance.

It is believed that the claims of the application as now presented, i.e., claims 1-8, 12-19, 23, 24, 27 and 30, are patentably distinct over the art of record and are in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing remarks, early and favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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